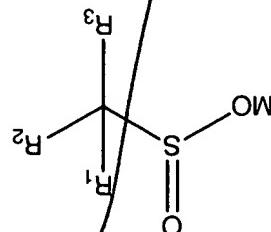


- wherein M is sodium or zinc.
6. (Twice Amended) The vinyl acetate based polymer emulsion of Claim 3
of hydrophobic hydroperoxide and the glycolic acid adduct of sodium sulfite.
5. (Twice Amended) The vinyl acetate based polymer emulsion of Claim 4
wherein the vinyl acetate based polymer emulsion is formed using a redox ~~emulsifying~~ system
salt; ethyl 2-hydroxy-2-sulfonato propionate-sodium salt.
4. (Twice Amended) The vinyl acetate based polymer emulsion of Claim 3
wherein the reducing agent represented by the formula is selected from the group consisting
of: 2-hydroxymethyl sulfinic acid-sodium salt; 4-methoxyphenyl hydroxymethyl
sulfinic acid-sodium salt; 2-hydroxy-2-sulfonato acetic acid-disodium salt;
3. (Twice Amended) The vinyl acetate based polymer emulsion of Claim 2
wherein the N-methyloacrylamide is present in an amount of from about 0.5 to 10% by
weight of the polymer.
2. (Twice Amended) The vinyl acetate based polymer emulsion of Claim 1 in
which the vinyl acetate based polymer comprises ethylene in an amount of from about 10 to
40% by weight of the polymer.
- wherein R₄ and R₅ each are H or C₁-C₆ alkyl; R₂ is H or an alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl or
NR₄R₅ wherein R₄ and R₅ are H or C₁-C₆ alkyl; R₁ is OH or
where M is a hydrogen atom, an ammonium atom or a monovalent metal ion, R₃ is CO₂M.
aryl and R₃ is CO₂M.



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Respectfully submitted,

CHANGES MADE.

current amendment. The attachment is captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the
the statutes may continue.

As the claims now stand they are directed to a vinyl acetate based polymer emulsion
formed by emulsion polymerization. Therefore, it is believed the objection to the claims as
filed in the previous amendment has been overcome. Examination of the invention under
the statutes may continue.

Applicants agree with the Examiner's reading of the respective claims as originally
presented and as presented in the May 5, 2002 response. Applicants did not intend to
change the composition claimed from that of an emulsion to that of a polymer.

The newly amended claims of this response should overcome the objection to the
amended claims filed with the response of May 5, 2002.

1-7 have been amended and are the only claims in the application.

This amendment is in response to the office action mailed on May 21, 2002. Claims
7. (Twice Amended) The vinyl acetate based polymer emulsion of Claim 3
wherein R₁ is OH.

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D/C